

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A container for tie wraps, comprising at least front and rear rectangular surfaces, wherein:
2 the front and rear rectangular surfaces are coupled along three of their four edges to form at least
3 one pocket with a top opening along the fourth edge;
4 the front surface includes an opening for accessing tie wraps that are carried in the pocket; and
5 the rear surface is coupled to an attachment arrangement that enables the container to be secured
6 to another object.
- 1 2. The invention of claim 1, wherein the opening in the front surface has a size, shape, and
2 position that enable a tie wrap to be removed from the pocket by a person reaching into the pocket
3 through the opening with a thumb and finger, grabbing the tie wrap along its length, and pulling the
4 tie wrap through the opening in a folded configuration.
- 1 3. The invention of claim 2, wherein the opening is diamond-shaped.
- 1 4. The invention of claim 1, wherein:
2 a first of the rectangular surfaces is longer than the other of the rectangular surfaces such that
3 the first surface extends beyond the top edge of the other surface to form a flap that can be folded
4 over the top opening of the pocket to form a top to the pocket; and
5 the container further comprises a mechanism for securing the flap to the other surface.
- 1 5. The invention of claim 4, wherein the mechanism comprises pieces of Velcro material
2 correspondingly mounted to the flap and to the other surface.
- 1 6. The invention of claim 1, further comprising an eyelet mounted near the top edge of the
2 container for securing the container to a work area.
- 1 7. The invention of claim 1, further comprising a ring coupled to the rear surface and enabling
2 the container to hang from a protrusion in a work area.

1 8. The invention of claim 1, further comprising a loop coupled to the rear surface and enabling
2 the container to be secured to a person's belt.

1 9. The invention of claim 1, wherein the front and rear surfaces are coupled together using
2 additional material to add depth to the container.

1 10. The invention of claim 1, wherein the front and rear surfaces comprise a flexible material
2 that can stretch to accommodate tie wraps.

1 11. The invention of claim 1, wherein the front and rear surfaces are coupled using stitches.

1 12. The invention of claim 1, wherein edges of the opening are stitched to provide additional
2 reinforcement.

1 13. The invention of claim 1, wherein the edges of the opening are reinforced with additional
2 material.

1 14. The invention of claim 1, further comprising a strap coupled to the rear surface and enabling
2 the container to be secured to a person's thigh.

1 15. The invention of claim 1, wherein at least one of the front and rear surfaces is made from a
2 translucent material.

1 16. The invention of claim 1, wherein at least one of the front and rear surfaces is color coded.

1 17. The invention of claim 1, wherein the container comprises two or more pockets.

1 18. The invention of claim 17, wherein the front surface of the two or more pockets have
2 different colors.

1 19. The invention of claim 17, wherein the front surface of the two or more pockets are tactilely
2 differentiated from each other.

1 20. The invention of claim 1, wherein the front and rear surfaces are made from a single piece
2 of material folded along one side and stitched along two other sides.

1 21. A container for tie wraps, comprising at least front and rear rectangular surfaces, wherein:
2 the front and rear rectangular surfaces are coupled along three of their four edges to form at least
3 one pocket with a top opening along the fourth edge;

4 the front surface includes an opening for accessing tie wraps that are carried in the pocket; and
5 the rear surface is coupled to an attachment arrangement that enables the container to be secured
6 to another object, wherein:

7 the opening in the front surface is diamond shaped and has a size and position that enable a
8 tie wrap to be removed from the pocket by a person reaching into the pocket through the opening
9 with a thumb and finger, grabbing the tie wrap along its length, and pulling the tie wrap through the
10 opening in a folded configuration;

11 a first of the rectangular surfaces is longer than the other of the rectangular surfaces such
12 that the first surface extends beyond the top edge of the other surface to form a flap that can be
13 folded over the top opening of the pocket to form a top to the pocket and the container further
14 comprises a mechanism for securing the flap to the other surface wherein the mechanism comprises
15 pieces of Velcro material correspondingly mounted to the flap and to the other surface;

16 the tote further comprises an eyelet mounted near the top edge of the container for securing
17 the container to a work area;

18 the tote further comprises a ring coupled to the rear surface that enables the container to
19 hang from a protrusion in a work area and a loop coupled to the rear surface that enables the
20 container to be secured to a person's belt;

21 the front and rear surfaces are coupled using stitches; and

22 the edges of the opening are stitched, and include additional material to provide additional
23 reinforcement.

1 22. A tie-wrap container, comprising a supporting structure adapted to support one or more
2 compartments, each compartment adapted to hold tie wraps, wherein:
3 each compartment includes at least one access opening on a front surface of the compartment;
4 the access opening for each compartment is smaller than the front surface of the compartment;
5 each compartment has at least one additional opening in addition to the access opening, the
6 additional opening being large enough to support loading and unloading of tie wraps into and from
7 the compartment;
8 each compartment includes a mechanism for closing the additional opening in the compartment
9 to prevent the tie wraps from falling out; and
10 the container is coupled to a mounting arrangement that is configured for mounting the
11 container on a surface or to a person's body.

1 23. The invention of claim 22, wherein the container includes two or more compartments, each
2 of which is color coded differently or tactilely differentiated from the others.

1 24. The invention of claim 22, wherein the material of at least one of the compartments
2 includes a translucent portion.

1 25. A method for storing and accessing tie wraps, comprising the steps of:

2 (a) storing a plurality of tie wraps in a container comprising at least front and rear rectangular
3 surfaces, wherein:

4 the front and rear rectangular surfaces are coupled along three of their four edges to form at
5 least one pocket with a top opening along the fourth edge;

6 the front surface includes an opening for accessing tie wraps that are carried in the pocket;
7 and

8 the rear surface is coupled to an attachment arrangement that enables the container to be
9 secured to another object; and

10 (b) removing a tie wrap from the pocket by reaching into the pocket through the opening with a
11 thumb and finger, grabbing the tie wrap along its length, and pulling the tie wrap through the
12 opening in a folded orientation.

1 26. The invention of claim 25, further comprising the step of securing the container to a
2 person's belt by passing the belt through a belt loop of the container.

1 27. The invention of claim 26, further comprising the step of securing the container to the
2 person's thigh by strapping the container to the person's thigh using a strap of the container.

1 28. The invention of claim 25, further comprising the steps of:

2 (c) opening a flap at the top of the container to expose the top opening of the pocket; and

3 (d) inserting additional tie wraps into the pocket through the top opening.

1 29. The invention of claim 25, wherein the container comprises a plurality of pockets and
2 further comprising the step of differentiating the plurality of pockets based on each pocket being
3 made from material having a different color.

1 30. The invention of claim 25, wherein the container comprises a plurality of pockets and
2 further comprising the step of differentiating the plurality of pockets based on each pocket being
3 made from tactilely differentiated material.

1 31. A method for storing and accessing tie wraps, comprising the steps of:

2 (a) storing a plurality of tie wraps in a container comprising at least front and rear rectangular
3 surfaces, wherein:

4 the front and rear rectangular surfaces are coupled along three of their four edges to form at
5 least one pocket with a top opening along the fourth edge;

6 the front surface includes an opening for accessing tie wraps that are carried in the pocket;
7 and

8 the rear surface is coupled to an attachment arrangement that enables the container to be
9 secured to another object;

10 (b) removing a tie wrap from the pocket by reaching into the pocket through the opening with a
11 thumb and finger, grabbing the tie wrap along its length, and pulling the tie wrap through the
12 opening in a folded orientation;

13 (c) securing the container to a person's belt by passing the belt through a belt loop of the
14 container;

15 (d) opening a flap at the top of the container to expose the top opening of the pocket; and

16 (e) inserting additional tie wraps into the pocket through the top opening wherein:

17 the container comprises a plurality of pockets and the method further comprises the steps of
18 differentiating the plurality of pockets based on each pocket being made from material having a
19 different color and differentiating the plurality of pockets based on each pocket being made from
20 tactilely differentiated material.

1 32. The invention of claim 31, further comprising securing the container to the person's thigh by
2 strapping the container to the person's thigh using a strap of the container.